Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /079 W -------041448Z 051925 /44

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7396

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION NATO

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CONFIDENTIAL WARSAW 2308

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR US UR

SUBJ: US-SOVIET RELATIONS: THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: WARSAW 2056

1. AT A DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION APRIL 1, SOVIET AMBASSADOR PILOTOVICH APPROACHED ME AND ASKED WHETHER I HAD READ THE FULL TEXT OF GROMYKO'S PRESS CONFERENCE. HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT I READ THE FULL TEXT AND NOT RELY ON THE ACCOUNTS OF IT WHICH WERE BEING CARRIED IN WESTERN NEWS MEDIA. IF I DID THAT, HE SAID, IT WOULD BE APPARENT TO ME THAT GROMYKO HAD INDICATED THE READINESS OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATING. "WE ARE LOOKING FORCONFIDENTIAL

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WARD TO GENEVA," HE SAID, BECAUSE "OUR GOVERNMENTS MUST CONTINUE TO TALK ABOUT THESE MATTERS AND MUST REACH AGREEMENT ON THEM SOONER OR LATER." I AGREED WITH HIM AND SAID THAT, FOR ITS PART, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO DO JUST THAT.

2. PILOTOVICH SAID, HALF-APOLOGETICALLY, THAT GROMYKO HAD BEEN "COMPELLED" TO GIVE HIS PRESS CONFERENCE BECAUSE THE PRESIDENT

HAD DISCUSSED THE NEGOTIATIONS "EVEN BEFORE SECRETARY VANCE HAD HAD A CHANCE TO REPORT TO HIM."

3. COMMENT: PILOTOVICH SEEMED GENUINELY CONCERNED TO EXPLAIN WHY GROMYKO HAD GIVEN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE AND TO CONVEY A REASSURANCE THAT, DESPITE WHAT GROMYKO MAY HAVE SAID OR HOW IT WAS INTERPRETED IN THE WEST, THE SOVIETS WANTED TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATING. HIS EAGERNESS TO GET THIS MESSAGE ACROSS CONFIRMS DR. BRZEZINSKI'S CONCLUSION THAT THE SOVIET REACTION IS ESSENTIALLY DEFENSIVE. END COMMENT.

DAVIES

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Message Attributes

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CONTROL), MEETING REPORTS

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TAGS: PFOR, US, UR, (GROMYKO, ANDREY ANDREYEVICH)

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